[*English*]

Import of Crude from Iran

2462. SHRI GURUDAS KAMAT: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to import crude from Iran; and

(b) if so, the terms and conditions in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). Indian Oil Corporation has a term contract with National Iranian Oil Company for supply of crude oil for the year 1991-92.

Opening of New Passport Offices

2463. SHRI V. SOBHANADREESWARA RAO: Will the Minister of EXTERNAL AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government propose to reopen the Passport office at Vijayawada in Andhra Pradesh;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) the places where passport offices are located in Karnataka;

(d) whether there is any proposal to open more passport offices in Karnataka; and

(e) if so, when and locations thereof?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI MADHAVSINH SOLANKI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) At Bangalore.

(d) No, Sir.

(e) Does not arise.

New Oil Fields and Gas Reserves

2464. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have discovered new oil reserve/oil fields/ new gas areas;

(b) if so, the approximate quantum thereof and the details of the places where these new oil fields and gas reserve were found; and

(c) the steps taken to start the exploration of those oil fields and gas reserve areas?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) During the years 1990-91 and 1991-92. Oil and Natural Gas Commission have discovered oil/gas in 31 structures in Bombay Offshore, Cambay, Krishna-Godavari, Cauvery, and Rajasthan Basins. A total of 61.13 MMT of initial geological reserves of oil and oil equivalent of gas have been established in those places whera assessment has been made.

During the corresponding period, Oil India Limited discovered oil/gas in 3 structures in Assam and Rajasthan and established about 21.7 MMT of initial geological reserves of oil and oil equivalent of gas. Besides, oil was discovered by O.I.L. at

Hathi-ali in Assam and Baghewala in Rajasthan where further assessment is in progress.

(c) Action is in hand to study exploration data or for delineating the structures by further drilling.

Production of Petroleum and Petrol Products during Eighth Five Year Plan

2465. SHRIMATI VASUNDHARA RAJE: Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the target set for the production of petrol end other petroleum products including Natural gas during the Eight Fiva Yeer Plan; and

(b) tha details of the scheme drawn up to increase their production?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) and (b). The Eighth Five Year Plan has not yet been finalised.

[*Translation*]

LPG Connections

2466. SHRI SURYA NARAYAN YADAV: Will tha Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) the number of domestic LPG connections sanctioned during 1990;

(b) the number of domestic LPG connections likely to be sanctioned during 1991; and

(c) the number of persons on the waiting list upto 1991 and the time by which they are likely to get gas connections?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS AND MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF DEFENCE (SHRI S. KRISHAN KUMAR): (a) During 1990-91 about 6 lakh new domestic gas connections were sanctioned.

(b) During 1991-92, 7.5 lakh new domestic LPG connections are proposed to be released.

(c) There are about 70 lakh persons on the waiting list as on 1.4.1991 Efforts are no to give LPG connections to as many applicants as eerly as possible.

[*English*]

Exploration of Minerals Through Small Scale Mining

2467. DR. G. L. KANAUJIA: Will the Minister of MINES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government propose to formulate any long scheme for the exploration/exploitetion of minerals through Small Scale Mining; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF MINES (SHRI BALRAM SINGH YADAV): (a) end (b). No, Sir. there is no such scheme. However, all the State Government and UT Administrations have been advised to consider the constitution of high-level committee to identify through investigation/exploration small and isolated deposits of the minerals included in Schedule 'A' of the Industriel Policy Resolution of 1956 and to formulate plans for the development of such smell deposits through extansion of necessary assistance from the State mining corporations to tha willing entrepraneurs.